

LOUISIANA SEED COMMISSION MEETING PROCEEDINGS

May 26, 2010

9:30 a.m.

Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Building

LDAF Veterans Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Mr. Fred Bass, Confidential Assistant to Commissioner Mike Strain.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Ms. Tina Ficklin.

The following members or their Designees were present: Mr. Fred Bass, Designee for Commissioner Mike Strain; Dr. Johnny Saichuk, Designee for Dr. Paul Coreil, representing the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service; Dr. David Boethel, representing Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station; Mr. Michael Hensgens, Designee for Mr. Don Philly, representing the Louisiana Ag. Industries Association; and Mr. Kyle McCann, Designee for Mr. Ronnie Anderson, representing the Louisiana Farm Bureau Association. All Members or their Designees were present.

Others Present: Todd Parker, Assistant Commissioner of AES; Eric Gates, LDAF Seed Programs; Lester Cannon, LDAF Seed Programs; Tina Ficklin, LDAF Seed Programs and guest, Mr. Mike Massey of Ragan & Massey, Inc.

A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to approve the minutes from September 24, 2009 Louisiana Seed Commission meeting. Mr. Kyle McCann seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Adopt the Notice-of-Intent to Increase the Seed Dealer License Fee

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to adopt the Seed Dealer License Fee increase, to the maximum of \$100 allowed by law, effective with the July 1, 2010 renewals. Mr. Kyle McCann seconded the motion. No public comment. Motion was approved unanimously.

Adopt the Notice-of-Intent to Amend the Sugarcane Certification Standards

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion, seconded by Dr. David Boethel, to adopt the amendments to allow for the reduction of field inspections, by LDAF, for Virus-tested sugarcane from four to three and to include Mexican Rice Borer in the Harmful Insects Table with a tolerance of None across all classes of sugarcane. Public comment was agreeable. Motion was approved unanimously.

Adopt the Notice-of-Intent to Amend the Sweet Potato Certification Standards

Motion: Dr. David Boethel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael Hensgens, to merge the two standards into one updated set of standards, inclusive of both Certified and Virus-Tested. No discussion. Motion was approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Labeling Requirements for Coated Seed

Mr. Mike Massey requested that the commission review a proposal affecting the language of the coated seed labels and the placement of the labeling on each seed package as a measure to protect the consumer's interest.

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion, seconded by Dr. Johnny Saichuk, to authorize a Notice-of-Intent to accept the proposal, §121. Labeling of Seed as presented to the commission, thereby allowing for public comment on this issue. Motion was approved unanimously.

Fee Schedule for Bulk Registered Seed Seals and Bulk Certified Sugarcane Shipping Form

Discussion was made on the cost recovery measures for items not paid for during the certification process. Mr. Cannon suggested a "blanket-type" proposal for cost recovery of items such as these, to be cost plus 10%. It was decided that it was a valid issue and the commission members advised Mr. Gates and Mr. Cannon to meet with legal counsel to develop the language of the proposal to present at the next Seed Commission meeting.

2010-2011 Liberty Link Rice Sampling

With a decision by the European Union to stop Liberty Link testing, it was decided by the Commission members to delay action until further discussion with LSU, Farm Bureau members, the Rice Federation board, and other interested parties in the rice industry.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Michael Hensgens, seconded by Dr. David Boethel. Members unanimously agreed.

